
FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 2.4.2010

Wall Street Journal: "Officials Blast AIG Bonuses ... Top Treasury officials on Wednesday lambasted a new round of bonus payments to employees of American International Group Inc.'s financial-products division, but stopped short of faulting current management."

Wall Street Journal: "Bernanke's Exit Strategy: Tighter Reserve Requirements ... Last week, voting 70-30, the Senate confirmed Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke for another four year term. So now what will he do?"

Washington Post: "Obama pay czar vows to press for lower AIG bonuses but cites contract obstacles ... The Obama administration's compensation czar said Wednesday that he will continue pushing for reductions to the hefty bonus payments being handed out by American International Group but acknowledged that he is constrained by guarantees the company made to employees years ago."

Washington Post: "Bernanke starts new term with speech acknowledging critics' points ... Ben S. Bernanke officially kicked off his second term as Federal Reserve chairman Wednesday with a simple message for those who criticized him during a bruising Senate confirmation battle: I hear you."

Washington Post: "Treasury offers loans to banks funding community development ... The Treasury Department said Wednesday that it will offer up to \$1 billion in low-cost loans to banks that focus on funding development in lower-income communities, part of the administration's new emphasis on helping smaller banks."

NY Times: "Bernanke Takes Oath at Fed, Quietly"

NY Times: "18 Ways to Break the Bank ... MANY economists say the nation's banks are too big. Here are some ways to break them up:"

LA Times: "Treasury launches program to spur small-business lending ... The Treasury Department said Wednesday that it would use as much as \$1 billion from the Troubled Asset Relief Program to spur lending to small businesses in lower-income areas."

USA Today: "Bernanke voices economic concerns as he's sworn in ... Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke expressed concerns Wednesday about the economic recovery during a ceremonial swearing-in for another four-year term."

USA Today: "Pay czar: AIG bonuses are 'outrageous' but legal ... Executives in AIG's financial products division are getting \$100 million richer, and the White House pay czar calls the bonuses "outrageous.""

Forbes: "The Ticking U.S. Fiscal Bomb ... In the last few weeks we've witnessed a series of events that reveal the Obama administration's juggling act."

Bloomberg: "Biggest Bubble in History Is Growing Every Day: William Pesek ... Real estate, stocks, credit. China sure has its share of bubbles. Oddly, little attention is paid to the biggest one of all."

NY Post: "Top Brooklyn HS coach in bet probe ... One of Brooklyn's most successful high-school baseball coaches is under investigation by the District Attorney's Office for his alleged involvement in a multimillion-dollar, mob-linked online sports-gambling operation, sources told The Post."